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FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.

5000 Bank One Center 1717 Main Street Dallas, Texas 75201

Telephone 214 747-5070

Facsimile 214 747-2091

Web Site www.fr.com

Joshua A. Griswold (214) 292-4034

Email

griswold@fr.com

January 5, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: 15831-011001

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Presented for filing is a preliminary amendment for:

Applicant: Gene Facey, Frank B. Williford And Bui V. Dao

Title: System And Method For Converting A Floating Drilling Rig To

A BOTTOM SUPPORTED DRILLING RIG

Serial No.: 10/706,770

Filed: November 11, 2003

Enclosed are the following papers:

— Preliminary amendment, 3 pages.

Calua A. Sucurla

— Postcard.

Please apply any required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above. Kindly acknowledge receipt of this preliminary amendment by returning the enclosed postcard.

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua A. Griswold Reg. No. 46,310

Enclosures JAG/plb

90060804.doc

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit January 5, 2004

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Pat Bradford

Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

Attorney's Docket No.: 15831-011001

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gene Facey, et al

Art Unit : Unknown

Serial No.: 10/706,770

Examiner: Unknown

Filed

: November 11, 2003

Title

: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CONVERTING A FLOATING DRILLING RIG

TO A BOTTOM SUPPORTED DRILLING RIG

Commissioner for Patents

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as indicated on the following pages.

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